

A RANGE EXTENSION FOR *LITORIA BREVIPALMATA* (ANURA: HYLIDAE). *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum* 42(1): 310. 1997:- Until 1995 the distribution of *Litoria brevipalmata* was believed to have extended from the SEQ Border Ranges and Darling Downs (McDonald, 1974 collected specimens from Crows Nest and Ravensbourne National Parks) to Brisbane's metropolitan area (Natrass and Ingram, 1993, recorded species at Woogaroo Ck near Wacol, Brisbane), through the extreme coastal lowlands, Glass House Mountains (Hannah & Smith, 1995; Gynther pers. comm.) and Conondale Ranges/Jimna area, Kilcoy Shire (McEvoy et al 1979 and Czechura 1978). In 1996 a new locality for *L. brevipalmata* was recorded in the Brooweena area (near Maryborough, SEQ) constituting a northerly range extension (Natrass pers. comm.). This paper documents a new locality at Yarraman State Forest for *L. brevipalmata*, the most western known locality for this species (approximately 40 km west of Brooweena). Two adults and one juvenile were recorded at Yarraman State Forest 289 (Qld Forestry Map number 9244-2), southeast Queensland. The juvenile was positively identified by G. Ingram (Qld Museum, pers. comm.).

Two adults were observed during a survey conducted on 18 November, 1995, along Rocky Creek (SF 289), after 51.8mm of rain had fallen two days previously. Rocky creek is huffered from surrounding *Araucaria cunninghamii* plantations by dry sclerophyll forest dominated by *Eucalyptus* and *Angophora* spp. with a ground cover predominantly of exotic herbs, grasses and *Lantana camara*. The first adult was observed at a dam (grid reference Forestry 9244-2; 936 314), approximately 200m from Rocky Creek, located about 2 m from the water's edge. The second was observed on an exposed branch of a fallen *Casuarina* overhanging the water upstream of Rock Creek, beside another dam (grid reference Forestry 9244-2; 941 317). Numerous trees, mainly *Casuarina* and *Eucalyptus* spp., were found on the dam wall with a ground cover similar to that at the first dam.

Other species of frogs sighted or heard vocalising here included: *Crinia signifera*, *Limnodynastes terraereginae*,

Litoria caerulea, *L. chloris*, *L. dentata*, *L. fallax*, *L. nasuta*, *L. latopalmata*, *L. lesueuri*, *Mixophyes fasciolatus* and *Bufo marinus*. At no time was *L. brevipalmata* heard.

A subsequent survey was conducted on 28 November, 1995, after 59.8mm of rain had fallen between 20 and 23 November. A juvenile was collected 30 cm from the water's edge at the first dam (grid reference Forestry 9244-2; 936 314). It is interesting that no frogs were observed during surveys on 1 October, 1995, or 9 November, 1995, at the dams along Rocky Creek when no rain had fallen previously. It appears that *L. brevipalmata* only becomes active after sufficient rainfall, concurring with observations made R. Natrass (pers. comm.). A final survey conducted on the night of 29 November failed to locate *L. brevipalmata*, although all other frog species present during the previous fortnight's surveys were still found, in low abundance.

Literature cited

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